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19 March 1958

MEMORANDUM FOR: Acting Chief, Planning and Program
Coordination Staff

SUBJECT : Comments on Special Reserve Panel Study
Entitled "The Role of CIA in Nuclear War"

REFERENCE : AC/PPC Memorandum to Multiple Addressees dated
27 February 1958, same subject.

1. WE Division considers the subject document a valuable and timely contribution to CIA war planning. It believes the concepts contained therein to be realistic and the conclusions and recommendations to be valid, particularly recommendations Nos. 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 which have a direct bearing on war planning in the WE area. For example, recommendations Nos. 4, 5 and 6 affect planning for war-time operations and communications bases; recommendations Nos. 2, 4 and 6 concern the subject of capabilities and limitations of clandestine operations in a nuclear war.

2. With respect to recommendation No. 9, it is WE's recommendation that the reserve panel's study be given official status as a basis for reviewing and re-orienting current war plans. It is further recommended that the "Role of CIA in Nuclear War" be a matter of continuing study and re-evaluation in the light of continuing developments in the nuclear and missile field.

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